

of the Bishop, by the editor of the *Reporter*, and the address itself which follows it, will not only be read with much interest, but that their perusal will be followed by many prayers that the heroic Bishop and his noble colleagues will be divinely sustained in their great work, and that the "word of the Lord" may, to a greater extent than ever, "have free course and be glorified."

Everything which tends to strengthen the Christian's faith in the truth of that Divine Revelation on which his hopes for eternity are built, and to encourage those who are seeking to extend its knowledge and promote its influence throughout the world, is well worthy of a place in the pages of the *Monthly Reporter*. Whatever view men may take of prophetic Truth, all students of the Bible must be convinced that the grand outlines of the world's history are to be found in the roll of prophecy, and that the mind of God, which was more or less clearly foreshadowed in the Sacred Scriptures, is being fulfilled in the various events which are hastening on the advent of the Redeemer's kingdom. God has set up way-marks for our guidance, and the fall of the Papacy is one of those visions which is made so plain that he may run that readeth it.

To bring good out of evil, and from the ruins which are the result of sin to gather materials wherewith to erect a monument to His own grace and goodness, is one of the most glorious prerogatives of God. The decree which sought to rob God of the honour due unto His name, and to assign to the creature an attribute which belongs only to the Creator, was the precursor of a broken dominion and a divided authority to him who claimed both temporal and spiritual supremacy among the nations of the earth. But from amidst the confusion and folly of sin God is gaining for Himself honour and glory. One great object of the Papacy has been to keep men in darkness, and to exclude from their souls the light of Divine Truth; and so specious has been the pretence under which this has been done, and so readily have men acquiesced in the bondage thus imposed on them, that the question might well have been asked, "Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered?" But God has answered, in a voice which cannot be mistaken, "Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered." Men are arising in the majesty of God's strength to claim their rightful heritage, and to remove the seal of prohibition from the fountain of living waters, that multitudes may flock to it and test their healing virtue and refreshing power. The following account, which the Rev. G. P. Davies has furnished, of the meeting of the Old Catholic Congress at Constance, and of the speech delivered there by Bishop Reinkens, will serve to illustrate these observations; and tend to encourage the hope, and to suggest the prayer, that more grace may yet be given to the leaders of this important movement, and that, guided and blessed of God, their efforts may issue in a wide-spread reformation. Mr. Davies thus introduces the subject:—

On the 14th of September, the second public meeting in connection with the Old Catholic Congress was held in the Council Hall in Constance, and was attended by more than 4,000 persons. It was the culminating point of the proceedings. Professors Weber, of Breslau, Friedrich, of Munich, Von Schulte, of Bonn, and Dr. Volk, of Augsburg, were the first speakers, and Bishop Reinkens the last. Professor Weber dwelt on the religious aspect of the movement, Dr. Volk (a member both of the Bavarian and Imperial Parliaments) on its political aspect. Professor Friedrich defended the canonicity of Bishop Reinkens' orders. Professor von Schulte dwelt on the rights of the laity. Bishop Reinkens, on this the first grand occasion of his addressing his flock since his consecration, chose as his theme—

THE PROHIBITION OF THE BIBLE IN THE ROMISH CHURCH.

After alluding to the Reform movement attempted by the Council of Constance in the 15th century, and to the burning of John Huss, he proceeded:—